

Ecological perspectives on Pandemics

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Beyond Toxics, Board
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1) What is the relationship of globalization of economy, food systems, and pandemics?

2) What are impacts and changes that follow pandemics?

3) What are organizing efforts that we have witnessed in present crisis?

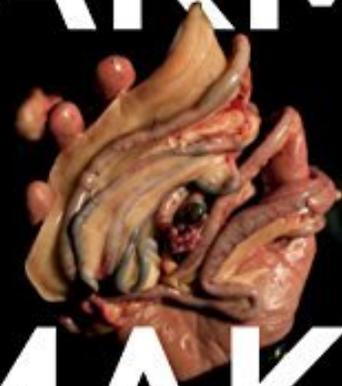
"Read this book, and after the inevitable nightmares, take a deep breath. Then start pestering your politicians, demanding they read it and do something, before pandemic influenza claims millions of lives."
—LAURIE GARRETT, PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING
AUTHOR OF THE COMING PLAGUE

MIKE DAVIS

**THE MONSTER
AT OUR DOOR**

THE GLOBAL THREAT OF AVIAN FLU

**BIG
FARMS**

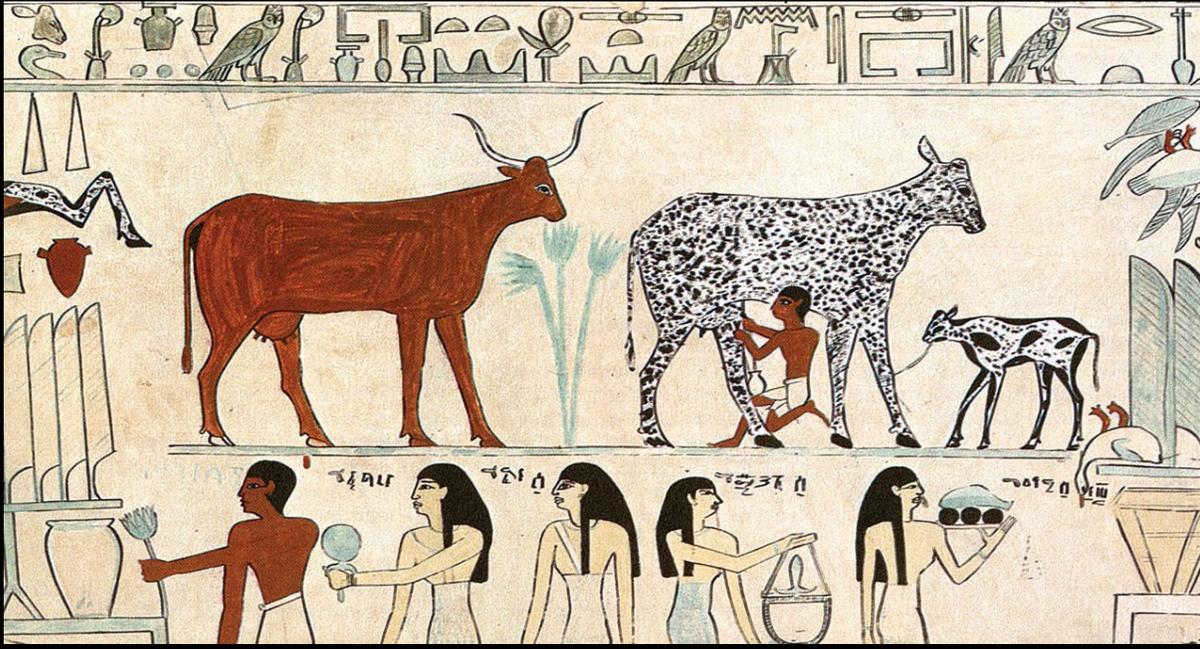


**MAKE
BIG FLU**

DISPATCHES ON INFECTIOUS DISEASE,
AGRIBUSINESS, AND THE NATURE OF SCIENCE

By **ROB WALLACE** Foreword by **MIKE DAVIS**

Ecology, Economy and Pandemics



The era of neoliberal globalization is marked by the free trade agreements, free flow of capital through expansion of cheaper foreign markets, deregulation, minimizing the role of state institutions and primacy of the individual.

This has deepened the existing rift between the economy and ecology and exacerbated inequalities between North-South, rural-urban.

Rob Wallace makes a stark connection between global capital accumulation, determinants of ecosystems and human health.

Land grabs, large-scale deforestation, and intensification of agriculture underpins the emergence of epizootic outbreaks in the Global South.

What factors are increasing zoonosis emergence? (Diseases transmitted from animals to humans)



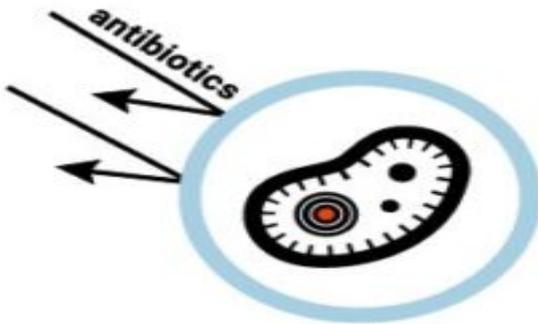
 **Deforestation and other land use changes**



 **Intensified agriculture and livestock production**



 **Illegal and poorly regulated wildlife trade**



 **Antimicrobial resistance**



 **Climate change**

Source: UNEP Frontiers 2016 Report

#COVID19

Private sector

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Palm oil firm under fire over land deals sealed during Ebola crisis in Liberia

Campaign group urges Golden Veroleum Liberia to renegotiate deals in which communities panic-stricken by Ebola signed over thousands of hectares of land



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ECOLOGIST

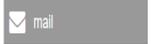
THE JOURNAL FOR THE POST-INDUSTRIAL AGE

Neoliberal Ebola: palm oil, logging, land grabs, ecological havoc and disease

Rob Wallace | 27th July 2015



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About the author

ROB WALLACE

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News

Enzootic Cycle

New evidence strongly implicates bats as the reservoir hosts for ebolaviruses, though the means of local enzootic maintenance and transmission of the virus within bat populations remain unknown.

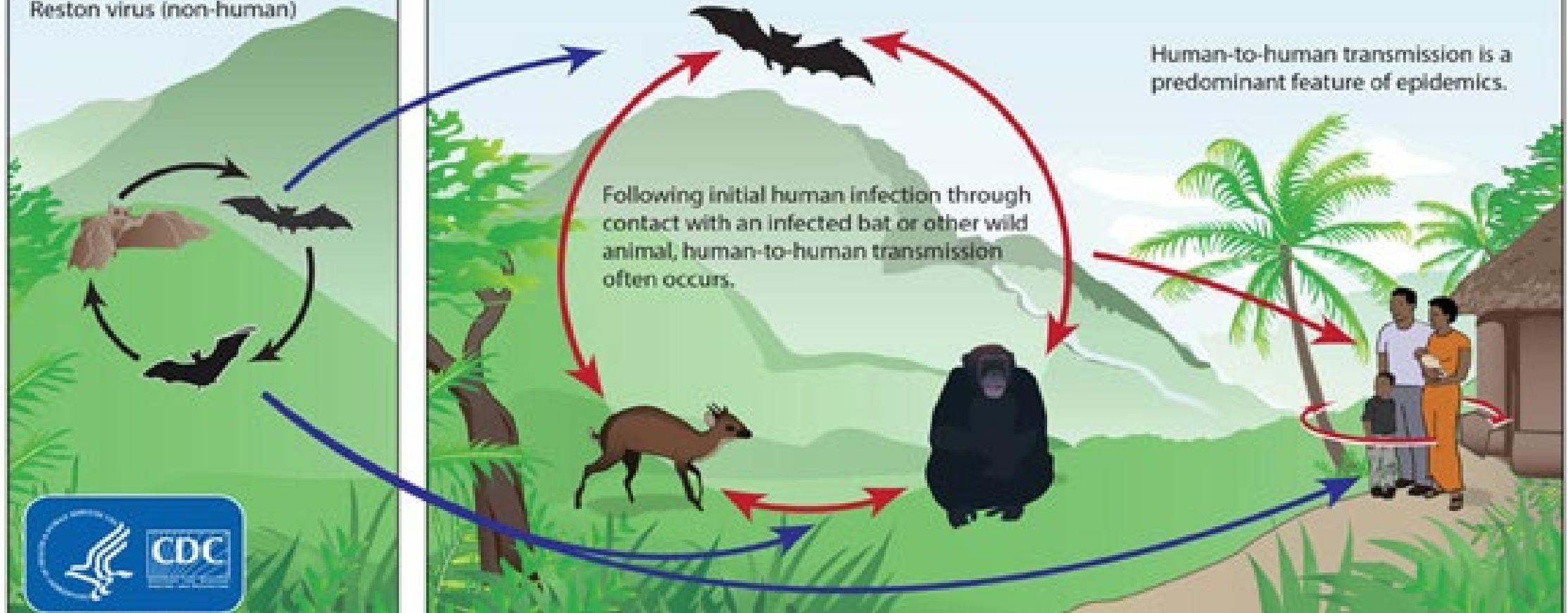
Ebolaviruses:

- Ebola virus (formerly Zaire virus)
- Sudan virus
- Tai Forest virus
- Bundibugyo virus
- Reston virus (non-human)

Epizootic Cycle

Epizootics caused by ebolaviruses appear sporadically, producing high mortality among non-human primates and duikers and may precede human outbreaks. Epidemics caused by ebolaviruses produce acute disease among

humans, with the exception of Reston virus which does not produce detectable disease in humans. Little is known about how the virus first passes to humans, triggering waves of human-to-human transmission, and an epidemic.



**What are impacts and changes
that follow pandemics?**

Mike Davis writes that “during the 1918 Spanish pandemic, 60% of mortality, that is 20 million deaths, occurred in the states of Punjab, Bombay, and other parts of western India.”

The synergy between pandemics, poverty, malnutrition, and unequal access to health care facilities hits the poor hardest.

“In moments of crisis, people tend to focus on the daily emergencies of surviving that crisis, whatever it is, and tend to put too much trust in those in power. We take our eyes off the ball a little bit in moments of crisis.”

Naomi Klein

**Organizing efforts during the
COVID-19 crisis?**

Amazon, Instacart Grocery Delivery Workers Demand Coronavirus Protection And Pay

March 30, 2020 · 8:47 AM ET

Heard on [All Things Considered](#)



ALINA SELYUKH



SHANNON BOND



4-Minute Listen

+ PLAYLIST





ASIAN AMERICA

Volunteers for Sikh nonprofit deliver food and supplies across L.A. amid pandemic

A volunteer says his drive to help comes from his religion, which includes the idea of selfless service – or "seva." "We have always been taught on Sikh principle that we should be helping people out."



ASIA

India's Sikh shrines feed those left hungry by coronavirus

The community kitchens of Sikh shrines in Delhi are continuously supplying hot meals to over 100,000 people who have lost their livelihoods during the COVID-19 pandemic in the Indian capital.



Date 22.04.2020

Duration 02:58 mins.

Author Hridayesh Joshi (New Delhi)

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The long read

'The way we get through this is together': the rise of mutual aid under coronavirus

▲ Photograph: Chris Clarke/Guardian Design; mask by May Cottage

Amid this unfolding disaster, we have seen countless acts of kindness and solidarity. It's this spirit of generosity that will help guide us out of this crisis and into a better future.

By [Rebecca Solnit](#)

People behaving badly is a staple of the news, and the pandemic has given us plenty of lurid snapshots. In the US alone, we have seen protesters with guns in Michigan's capital demanding an end to lockdown, anti-vaxxer women [in a frenzy](#) at California's capitol, opportunists stockpiling hand sanitiser to resell for

Thu 14 May 2020 01.00 EDT



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